# 1.5 Flexibility through adaptive planning to ensure that water extraction does not exceed the budget of water that is available; conservation of water; coordination with water quality.

The State shall coordinate the plans, laws, regulations and decisions pertaining to water allocation with those pertaining to water quality, and shall adapt and update plans and models to ensure that actual and projected water consumption in the state plus the water needed for instream uses does not exceed the water supply. The State shall conserve the waters of the State through suitable policies and by encouraging private efforts to conserve water and avoid waste.

This is an adaptation of section 1R-1-09 of the Regulated Riparian Model Code to accommodate the more regional, adaptive, and hydrologic model—based planning process recommended by the Water Allocation Study team, along with Regulated Riparian Model Code section 1R-1-10 on water conservation.

## 1.6 Pricing water to fully cover the costs of its capture, treatment, distribution, collection, scarcity, and reuse rather than to keep rates as low as possible.

The State shall encourage, through its funding and oversight of local government and utility finances, that water be priced to fully cover the costs of its capture, treatment, distribution, collection, scarcity and reuse, including the maintenance, repair and replacement of water infrastructure, rather than being priced to keep rates as low as possible.

This provision is designed to encourage the use of conservation rates, drought pricing, and capital budgeting to fully cover the costs of water. The Water Allocation Team believes that price should be a central tool in the allocation of water during shortages; it is a signal to water users that lets the users decide how and when to cut back on use most efficiently.

## 1.7 Efficient and equitable allocation during shortfalls in supply and procedures for resolving disputes between water users.

The State, in the exercise of its sovereign police power to protect the public interest in the waters of the State, undertakes to provide, through this [Act], an orderly strategy to allocate available water efficiently and equitably in times of water shortage or water emergency.

Given the slow and politically charged governance structure for water price setting, it is essential to supplement full-cost water pricing with administrative mechanisms to deal with water shortages and the conflicts they produce. The withdrawal permit plus state and local drought-response powers and Water Shortage Response Plans provide those mechanisms, and this goal, which quotes verbatim Regulated Riparian Model Code section 1R-1-05, sets out the general goals (efficiency and equity) for judging those mechanisms.

### 1.8 Reasonable use and unreasonable injury.

No person shall make any use of the waters of the State except insofar as the use is reasonable as determined pursuant to this [Act]. No person using the waters of the State shall cause unreasonable injury to other water uses made pursuant to valid water rights, regardless of whether the injury relates to the quality or the quantity impacts of the activity causing the injury.

Verbatim from Regulated Riparian Model Code sections 2R-1-01 and 2R-1-03.

### 1.9 No prohibition of use based on location of use.

Uses of the waters of the State on nonriparian or nonoverlying land are lawful and entitled to equal consideration with uses on riparian or overlying land in any administrative or judicial proceeding relating to the allocation, withdrawal, or use of water or to the modification of a water right. Nothing in this [Act] shall be construed to authorize access to the waters of